

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

December 12th - December 18th

- Today:** 3rd Sunday of Advent
 BERF Gifts Due!
 9:45 - Sunday School
 11:00 - Worship
 12:30 - Cookie Exchange Party
 1:30 - Youth Activity - Christmas Caroling
 6:30 - Session/Diaconate Joint Meeting
- Monday:** 7:00 - Boy Scouts
- Tuesday:** 2:30 - Afternoon Circle
 (at the home of Libby Smith)
 3:00 - Poinsettia Deadline
 6:00 - Evening Circle
- Wednesday:** 5:45 - The Bells of Bethel
 7:00 - Adult Choir
- Thursday:** January Tower Deadline

Next Sunday, December 19th: 4th Sunday of Advent

- 9:45 - Sunday School*
- 11:00 - Worship*
- 12:00 - Covered Dish Luncheon and
 Joy Gift Program*

Greeters: James and Cynthia Williams

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Bettie Swisher to the Glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Swisher, Don Swisher, Faye Stump, and Agnes Lotts.

*The BERF Christmas presents are due today! Remember that the gifts need to be returned to the church wrapped with the tag attached. Thank you so much for your generosity!

***Christmas Caroling** Today, the Bethel Youth will meet at 1:30 pm in Memorial Hall. We will then divide into groups to visit our shut-ins. This a youth sponsored activity, but all members of the congregation are invited. Come join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship!

*The Session and Board of Deacons will have their annual joint meeting this evening, at 6:30 pm. All Session and Diaconal members need to plan on attending this meeting. All newly elected officers (returning, ordained, or not yet ordained) will need to make plans to attend for examination by the Session following the joint meeting. If you will not be able to attend, please let Joel know.

*The Afternoon Circle will meet this Tuesday, December 14th, 2010, at 2:30 pm. The meeting will take place at the home of Libby Smith.

*The deadline for Christmas Poinsettia orders is this Tuesday, December 14th, at 3 pm. An order form is included in your bulletin and in the December Tower. Please give your orders to Libby Smith or turn them into the Church Office. There will no exceptions for this deadline! Thank you!

*The Evening Circle will meet at the church this Tuesday, December 14th, 2010, at 6:00 pm. We will have a covered dish meal and everyone is asked to bring a gift to exchange (\$10 limit).

*The January Tower deadline is this Thursday, December 16th. There will no exceptions for this deadline! Thank you!

*Come and join us following the worship service next Sunday, December 19th for a covered dish meal and Joy Gift Program. Our young people will have the program, under the direction of Cindy Almarode and Donna Bush. Practice will be during the Sunday School hour next Sunday, December 19th.

*The historic Stonewall Brigade Band will present a Christmas Concert at 7:30 pm on Monday, December 20th. The concert will take place in the sanctuary of St. Paul's United Methodist Church (2000 Shutterlee Mill Road; Staunton), featuring guest vocalist Ernest Holley. Admission is free, and an offering will be received to benefit the Blue Ridge Area Food Band. Pre-concert music by the Stonewall Flutes of the Shenandoah will begin at 6:45 pm.

*Our annual Christmas Eve candle lighting service will be held at 9 pm. The service is always a moving and beautiful experience as we hear the Good News both read and sung. Come and take part as we sing, as we pray, and as we praise God for the birth of our dear Savior!

*Registration for the “Baja Mission Trip” is now open. If you are interested in participating please contact Derek Almarode, Keith Folsom, Peggy Smith, or Kathy Swisher. Registration is open until February 1st, 2011. Registration for the trip will not be accepted after the February 1st deadline. There will be an information meeting scheduled in January shortly after the holidays to assist you with any questions or concerns you may have. Please do not hesitate to call or email Derek Almarode if you have any questions in regards to this mission trip. Thank you!

*Our remaining 2009 Taste of Heaven cookbooks, \$15 each, are available for purchase in Memorial Hall. If you would like to purchase one please write a check payable to Presbyterian Women and leave the check in the Presbyterian Women mailbox in Memorial Hall. Thank you!

*Kroger grocery cards are still available. Please contact Joyce Miller for more information.

*Thank you Bethel for all of your help! Kingsway served 227 families this Thanksgiving. Kingsway continues to need donations of food, household goods, and they are also requesting donations of large men’s clothes. God bless and thank you!

- Joan McLaughlin

***Offerings 2010:** It is requested that offerings for 2010 be made no later than Sunday, December 26th, 2010. Thank you for your continued support.

***Pledges 2011:** 37 pledges for a total of \$92,240 have been received. Thanks to those who pledged. If you have not already pledged, please prayerfully consider pledging now for 2011 - it is not too late.

***Offering Envelopes 2011:** Numbered offering envelopes are now available in the vestibule. If you received numbered envelopes in 2010 you will have the same number reserved for 2011. If you do not currently use envelopes but would like to, please contact the church office with your request.

*If you would like to join Bethel Presbyterian Church, please feel free to contact a session member. We would love to hear from you.

Attendance: 98

Weekly Budget: \$3,513.00 Received: \$7,457.00